

UN Global Compact Office
United Nations
New York, NY 10017
USA

8th May 2024

Communication on Engagement (COE)

Period covered by this COE

From: April 2022 To: April 2024

1. Statement of Continued Support

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Tekna reaffirms its support to UN Global Compact and its ten principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact.

In this Communication on Engagement, we describe the actions that our organisation has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,



Line Henriette Holten

General Secretary

Tekna – The Norwegian Society of Chartered Technical and Scientific Professionals

2. Description of actions

Tekna is both a trade union and a civil society organization in one. The 107.000 members of Tekna have a master's degree or more in technology and/or natural sciences and are working within all sectors and business branches in society. Tekna is present through local Trade Union Groups in more than 1000 local businesses, government organizations and civil society organizations. The majority of the local groups and members are within businesses.

2.1. Following up our pledge from our 2021 application for membership

In its membership application Tekna made three pledges. Tekna has actively followed up these pledges as follows:

Advancing labour union rights and decent work in the Norwegian labour market as a trade union

Tekna has continued actively to work on behalf of its members through bargaining as well as through cooperation with employers locally and employers' associations nationally to forward labour union rights and decent work. Teknas success in this is confirmed by a steady growth of around 6.000 members and through the forming of local trade Union groups at more than 50 new businesses each year since 2021.

Supporting trade union work through international labour organisations

Tekna has kept up and strengthened its work through the Nordic union IN (Industrianställda i Norden) as well as through IndustriALL Europe and IndustriALL Global of which Tekna is also a member. Through IndustriALL Global Tekna supports economically the development and strengthening of trade unions in Kenya and Uganda.

Supporting sustainable development in society through a broad Action Plan

The action plan was called for by the Tekna congress (Teknas representantskap) of 2019 which also confirmed Teknas active support for the UN Development Goals. The action plan covers both the social, economic and ecological dimensions of sustainability and has a long-term perspective up to 2030 and further on to 2050. The Tekna congress of 2023 reaffirmed and strengthened the ambition of the Action Plan. The Action Plan is described under a separate chapter later in this COE.

Continuous dialogue with and reporting to UN Global Compact

With this document Tekna answers to the requirement of biannually confirming its engagement to work with UN Global Compact to support its ten principles and stand by our pledge given when establishing our membership in 2022.

Tekna will also engage in working with The UN Global Compact Norwegian Network, sharing information and reports annually and participating in the ongoing work within the network.

2.2. Actions as a trade Union and Civil Society Organization as suggested by UN Global Compact

Building dialogue with companies and NGOs involved in the Global Compact

Through our local Trade Union Groups Tekna has established local formal cooperation agreements between the local Tekna groups and the management of the more than 1000 different businesses, civil society organizations and government organizations in question. These formal cooperation dialogues encompass working conditions as well as strategic development of the different organizations including sustainability issues. In these dialogues the local groups are supported and advised by Teknas national organization.

Tekna also participates in a cooperation group on sustainability including the UN Global Compact member Econa. Tekna and Econa also cooperate with national Trade Union organization Akademikerne which plays a key role within the Government sector.

Participating in Global Compact Local Networks

Tekna engage in the activities of the local Norwegian network in different ways including through the position of the board of this network held by Teknas General Secretary Line Henriette Holten.

Examine company performance and rights on sustainability issues and engaging companies in Global Compact-related issues

Such engagements enter into the formal dialogues between the local Tekna groups and the management in the different businesses and organisations.

Joining and/or proposing partnership projects on corporate sustainability and joining and/or supporting special initiatives and work streams

Such projects arise through different areas of Teknas sustainability action plan. See reports and references in Chapter Three for more information.

A special form of partnership projects take place through a special group of organizations cooperating formally with Tekna (Tilknyttede foreninger). In these organizations also businesses and different kinds of organizations are allowed as members. The largest examples of such projects presently are two EU projects operated by the cooperating organization ITS Norway: [Forside - ITS Norway \(its-norway.no\)](https://www.its-norway.no).

2.3. Teknas 2050 Sustainability Action Plan

Tekna is committed to promote sustainable development through its Action Plan for Sustainability which focuses on two areas.

Development of sustainable practices within all areas of Tekna's operations

This strand includes activities like:

- Tracking and reduction of direct and indirect carbon emissions
- Sustainable procurement
- Sustainable management of financial resources
- Certification as a sustainable organization under the standard Miljøfyrtårn

For more details see reports and references presented in the next chapter.

Contribution to sustainable development within society and to realization of the UN Sustainable Development Goals

Within this strand Tekna forwards a set of activities aimed at contributing positively to sustainability within society. It utilizes Teknas specific resources and capacities through own activities and through cooperation and alliances with other organizations. It builds on Teknas key strongpoints which are:

- Teknas 107.000 highly educated and competent members
- The position in Society of Tekna built on the value of its members and on its track record as a professional organizational actor within the Norwegian society

Methodically the Action Plan builds on a structured analysis including a value based materiality analysis. This will be updated the coming year through a double materiality analysis in accordance with EUs CSRD directive.

The action plan has four strands:

- Tekna shall be a challenging partner contributing to sustainable development.
- Tekna shall support and challenge its members in creating the solutions that drive sustainable development.
- Tekna shall assist its members in acquiring the necessary training and lifelong learning necessary for contributing to sustainable development.
- Tekna shall clearly speak in favor of the green shift based on science and technology.

In pursuit of this, Tekna actively utilize its capacities as a strong trade union, a large organizer of networks, meeting, courses and conferences as well as using its efficient communication channels and its strong lobbying capacity.

For more details we refer to the enclosed reports and the references in the next chapter.

3. Measurement of Outcomes

Tekna has established a set of indicators and reports tracking its progress in its sustainability work.

Selected indicators

- A measure for Teknas direct and indirect climate emissions through a specific method called climate cost. The method is based on financial data and tracks the aggregated emissions of scope 1, 2 and 3.
- Different indicators within the Miljøfyrtårn standard
- A system for tracking conferences, seminars and other events based on relevant SDGs.
- A systematic reporting of political initiatives based on relevant SDGs.

Selected WEB sites

www.tekna.no - Teknas official website

www.tekna.no/barekraft - Website that gathers information on sustainability in Tekna

[Teknas høringsuttalelser og innspill](#) – Overview over political initiatives and statements from Tekna related to SDGs.

Key reports – enclosed

Bærekraftsrapport 2023 – Annual sustainability report from Tekna for 2023

Annual report from Tekna for Miljøfyrtårn indicators for 2023